

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

1-3 Canceled

4. (Currently Amended) ~~The method of claim 1, wherein weight represents an approximate amount of work that needs to be performed to complete a task, and wherein determining the overall execution progress value comprises: A machine-~~  
implemented method, comprising:
- monitoring execution progress of a parent task and one or more child tasks,  
wherein the one or more child tasks are spawned by the parent task and execute  
concurrently with the parent task, and wherein each of the child tasks is a separate task  
from the parent task;
- determining an overall execution progress value for the parent task, wherein  
weight represents an approximate amount of work that needs to be performed to complete  
a task, and wherein determining the overall progress value comprises:
- determining a total weight for the parent task, wherein the parent task has  
an associated weight and each child task has an associated declared  
weight, and wherein the total weight includes the weight of the  
parent task and the declared weight of each child task;
- determining a ballast for the parent task, wherein the ballast is a portion of  
the weight of the parent task and indicates how much execution  
progress has been made by the parent task;
- determining a calculated ballast for each child task, wherein the calculated  
ballast for a child task is a portion of the declared weight of the

child task and indicates how much execution progress has been made by the child task; and

deriving the overall execution progress value for the parent task based, at least partially, upon the total weight, the ballast of the parent task, and the calculated ballast of at least one of the child tasks; and

causing an indication of the overall execution progress value to be displayed to a user.

5. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein deriving the overall execution progress value comprises:

determining a ratio between a total ballast and the total weight, wherein the total ballast includes the ballast of the parent task and the calculated ballast of each child task.

6. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein determining a calculated ballast for each child task comprises:

determining a progress value for a particular child task; and

determining a calculated ballast for the particular child task, wherein the calculated ballast for the particular child task is the product of the progress value for the particular child task and a declared weight of the particular child task.

7. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein the particular child task spawns one or more grandchild tasks which run concurrently with the particular child task, and wherein the progress value for the particular child task is determined based, at

least partially, upon execution progress of the particular child task and execution progress of at least one of the grandchild tasks.

8. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein the total weight does not include weights of any tasks spawned by the one or more child tasks.

9-11 Canceled

12. (Currently Amended) ~~The machine-readable storage medium of claim 9, wherein weight represents an approximate amount of work that needs to be performed to complete a task, and wherein the instructions for causing one or more processors to determine the overall execution progress value comprises: A machine-readable storage medium, comprising:~~

instructions for causing one or more processors to monitor execution progress of a parent task and one or more child tasks, wherein the one or more child tasks are spawned by the parent task and execute concurrently with the parent task, and wherein each of the child tasks is a separate task from the parent task;

instructions for causing one or more processors to determine an overall execution progress value for the parent task, wherein weight represents an approximate amount of work that needs to be performed to complete a task, and wherein the instructions for causing one or more processors to determine the overall execution progress value comprise:

instructions for causing one or more processors to determine a total weight for the parent task, wherein the parent task has an associated weight and each child task has an associated declared weight, and wherein the total weight includes the weight of the parent task and the declared weight of each child task;

instructions for causing one or more processors to determine a ballast for the parent task, wherein the ballast is a portion of the weight of the parent task and indicates how much execution progress has been made by the parent task;

instructions for causing one or more processors to determine a calculated ballast for each child task, wherein the calculated ballast for a child task is a portion of the declared weight of the child task and indicates how much execution progress has been made by the child task; and

instructions for causing one or more processors to derive the overall execution progress value for the parent task based, at least partially, upon the total weight, the ballast of the parent task, and the calculated ballast of at least one of the child tasks; and

instructions for causing one or more processors to cause an indication of the overall execution progress value to be displayed to a user.

13. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable storage medium of claim 12, wherein the instructions for causing one or more processors to derive the overall execution progress value comprises:

instructions for causing one or more processors to determine a ratio between a total ballast and the total weight, wherein the total ballast includes the ballast of the parent task and the calculated ballast of each child task.

14. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable storage medium of claim 12, wherein the instructions for causing one or more processors to determine a calculated ballast for each child task comprises:

instructions for causing one or more processors to determine a progress value for a particular child task; and

instructions for causing one or more processors to determine a calculated ballast for the particular child task, wherein the calculated ballast for the particular child task is the product of the progress value for the particular child task and a declared weight of the particular child task.

15. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable storage medium of claim 14, wherein the particular child task spawns one or more grandchild tasks which run concurrently with the particular child task, and wherein the progress value for the particular child task is determined based, at least partially, upon execution progress of the particular child task and execution progress of at least one of the grandchild tasks.

16. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable storage medium of claim 12, wherein the total weight does not include weights of any tasks spawned by the one or more child tasks.

17-19 Canceled

20. (Currently Amended) ~~The apparatus of claim 17, wherein weight represents an approximate amount of work that needs to be performed to complete a task, and wherein the mechanism for determining the overall execution progress value comprises: An apparatus having one or more processors, comprising:~~

a mechanism for monitoring execution progress of a parent task and one or more child tasks, wherein the one or more child tasks are spawned by the parent task and execute concurrently with the parent task, and wherein each of the child tasks is a separate task from the parent task;

a mechanism for determining an overall execution progress value for the parent task, wherein weight represents an approximate amount of work that needs to be performed to complete a task, and wherein the mechanism for determining the overall execution progress value for the parent task comprises:

a mechanism for determining a total weight for the parent task, wherein the parent task has an associated weight and each child task has an associated declared weight, and wherein the total weight includes the weight of the parent task and the declared weight of each child task;

a mechanism for determining a ballast for the parent task, wherein the ballast is a portion of the weight of the parent task and indicates how much execution progress has been made by the parent task;

a mechanism for determining a calculated ballast for each child task, wherein the calculated ballast for a child task is a portion of the declared weight of the child task and indicates how much execution progress has been made by the child task; and

a mechanism for deriving the overall execution progress value for the parent task based, at least partially, upon the total weight, the ballast of the parent task, and the calculated ballast of at least one of the child tasks; and

a mechanism for causing an indication of the overall execution progress value to be displayed to a user.

21. (Original) The apparatus of claim 20, wherein the mechanism for deriving the overall execution progress value comprises:

a mechanism for determining a ratio between a total ballast and the total weight, wherein the total ballast includes the ballast of the parent task and the calculated ballast of each child task.

22. (Original) The apparatus of claim 20, wherein the mechanism for determining a calculated ballast for each child task comprises:

a mechanism for determining a progress value for a particular child task; and

a mechanism for determining a calculated ballast for the particular child task, wherein the calculated ballast for the particular child task is the product of the progress value for the particular child task and a declared weight of the particular child task.

23. (Original) The apparatus of claim 22, wherein the particular child task spawns one or more grandchild tasks which run concurrently with the particular child task, and wherein the progress value for the particular child task is determined based, at least partially, upon execution progress of the particular child task and execution progress of at least one of the grandchild tasks.

24. (Original) The apparatus of claim 20, wherein the total weight does not include weights of any tasks spawned by the one or more child tasks.

25. (Currently Amended) A machine-implemented method, comprising:  
 monitoring execution progress of a parent task ~~and one or more descendant tasks,~~  
a child task, and a grandchild task, wherein the child task is spawned by the parent task  
and the grandchild task is spawned by the child task, wherein each descendant task is  
~~spawned by either the parent task or another descendant task, wherein each descendant~~  
~~task is a separate task wherein the child task and the grandchild task are separate tasks~~  
 from the parent task, and wherein the ~~one or more descendant tasks~~ child task and  
grandchild task execute concurrently with the parent task;



determining an overall execution progress value for the parent task, comprising:  
~~wherein the overall execution progress value is determined based, at least partially, upon~~  
~~execution progress of the parent task and execution progress of the descendant tasks; and~~  
determining a progress value for the grandchild task;  
determining a progress value for the child task based, at least partially, on  
the progress value for the grandchild task; and  
determining the overall execution progress value for the parent task based,  
at least partially, on the progress value of the child task; and  
 causing an indication of the overall execution progress value to be displayed to a user.

26. Canceled

27. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 25, wherein ~~the parent task~~  
~~spawns a child task, the child task spawns a grandchild task, and the grandchild task~~  
~~spawn~~ spawns a great grandchild task, ~~and~~ wherein determining the overall execution  
 progress value for the parent task further comprises:  
 determining a progress value for the great grandchild task; and  
 determining a progress value for the grandchild task based, at least partially, on  
 the progress value for the great grandchild task;  
 determining a progress value for the child task based, at least partially, on the  
 progress value for the grandchild task; and

~~determining the overall execution progress value for the parent task based, at least partially, on the progress value of the child task~~

wherein the progress value for the grandchild task is determined based, at least partially, on the progress value for the great grandchild task.

28. (Currently Amended) A machine-readable storage medium, comprising:  
instructions for causing one or more processors to monitor execution progress of a parent task ~~and one or more descendant tasks, a child task, and a grandchild task, wherein the child task is spawned by the parent task and the grandchild task is spawned by the child task, wherein each descendant task is spawned by either the parent task or another descendant task, wherein each descendant task is a separate task wherein the child task and the grandchild task are separate tasks~~ from the parent task, and wherein the ~~one or more descendant tasks~~ child task and grandchild task execute concurrently with the parent task;

instructions for causing one or more processors to determine an overall execution progress value for the parent task, ~~comprising: wherein the overall execution progress value is determined based, at least partially, upon execution progress of the parent task and execution progress of the descendant tasks; and~~

instructions for causing one or more processors to determine a progress value for the grandchild task;

instructions for causing one or more processors to determine a progress value for the child task based, at least partially, on the progress value for the grandchild task; and

instructions for causing one or more processors to determine the overall execution progress value for the parent task based, at least partially, on the progress value of the child task; and

instructions for causing one or more processors to cause an indication of the overall execution progress value to be displayed to a user.

29. Canceled

30. (Currently Amended) The machine-readable storage medium of claim 28, wherein ~~the parent task spawns a child task, the child task spawns a grandchild task, and the grandchild task spawn spawns a great grandchild task, and~~ wherein the instructions for causing one or more processors to determine the overall execution progress value for the parent task further comprises:

instructions for causing one or more processors to determine a progress value for the great grandchild task; and

~~instructions for causing one or more processors to determine a progress value for the grandchild task based, at least partially, on the progress value for the great grandchild task;~~

~~instructions for causing one or more processors to determine a progress value for the child task based, at least partially, on the progress value for the grandchild task; and~~

~~instructions for causing one or more processors to determine the overall execution progress value for the parent task based, at least partially, on the progress value of the child task~~

wherein the progress value for the grandchild task is determined based, at least partially, on the progress value for the great grandchild task.

31. (Currently Amended) An apparatus having one or more processors, comprising:

a mechanism for monitoring execution progress of a parent task ~~and one or more descendant tasks~~, a child task, and a grandchild task, wherein the child task is spawned by the parent task and the grandchild task is spawned by the child task, ~~wherein each descendant task is spawned by either the parent task or another descendant task, wherein each descendant task is a separate task~~ wherein the child task and the grandchild task are separate tasks from the parent task, and wherein the ~~one or more descendant tasks~~ child task and grandchild task execute concurrently with the parent task;

a mechanism for determining an overall execution progress value for the parent task, comprising: ~~wherein the overall execution progress value is determined based, at least partially, upon execution progress of the parent task and execution progress of the descendant tasks; and~~

a mechanism for determining a progress value for the grandchild task;  
a mechanism for determining a progress value for the child task based, at least partially, on the progress value for the grandchild task; and  
a mechanism for determining the overall execution progress value for the parent task based, at least partially, on the progress value of the child task; and

a mechanism for causing an indication of the overall execution progress value to be displayed to a user.

32. Canceled

33. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 31, wherein ~~the parent task spawns a child task, the child task spawns a grandchild task, and the grandchild task spawn~~ spawns a great grandchild task, and wherein the mechanism for determining the overall execution progress value for the parent task further comprises:

a mechanism for determining a progress value for the great grandchild task; and

~~a mechanism for determining a progress value for the grandchild task based, at least partially, on the progress value for the great grandchild task;~~

~~a mechanism for determining a progress value for the child task based, at least partially, on the progress value for the grandchild task; and~~

~~a mechanism for determining the overall execution progress value for the parent task based, at least partially, on the progress value of the child task~~

wherein the progress value for the grandchild task is determined based, at least partially, on the progress value for the great grandchild task.